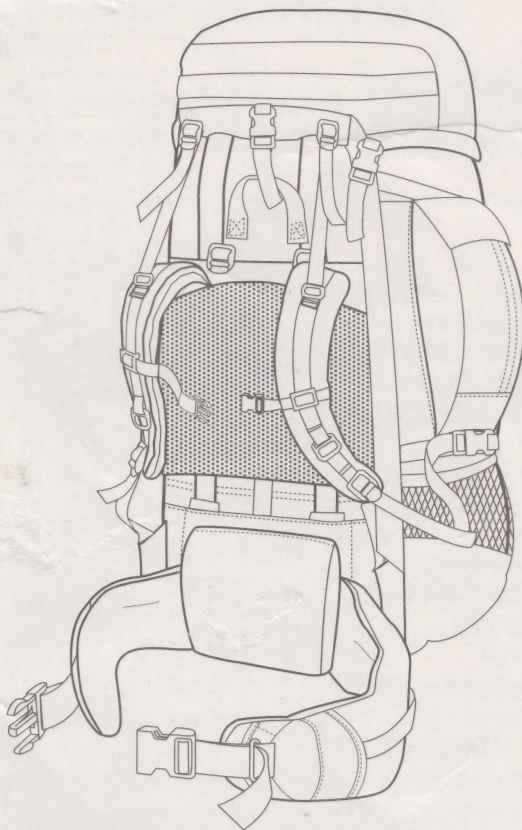




Trail Series

-RED CLOUD & COYOTE-

TRAIL SUSPENSION INSTRUCTIONS



INSTRUCTION INDEX

Pack Components	2
Custom Fitting your Pack	3-5
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KNOWING YOUR PACK

The Trail Series suspension features:

ALUMINUM STAYS
provide load transfer,
strength and support.

Anatomically curved
SHOULDER STRAPS & SHOULDER PANEL
adjust vertically on
the stays for perfect
torso fit.

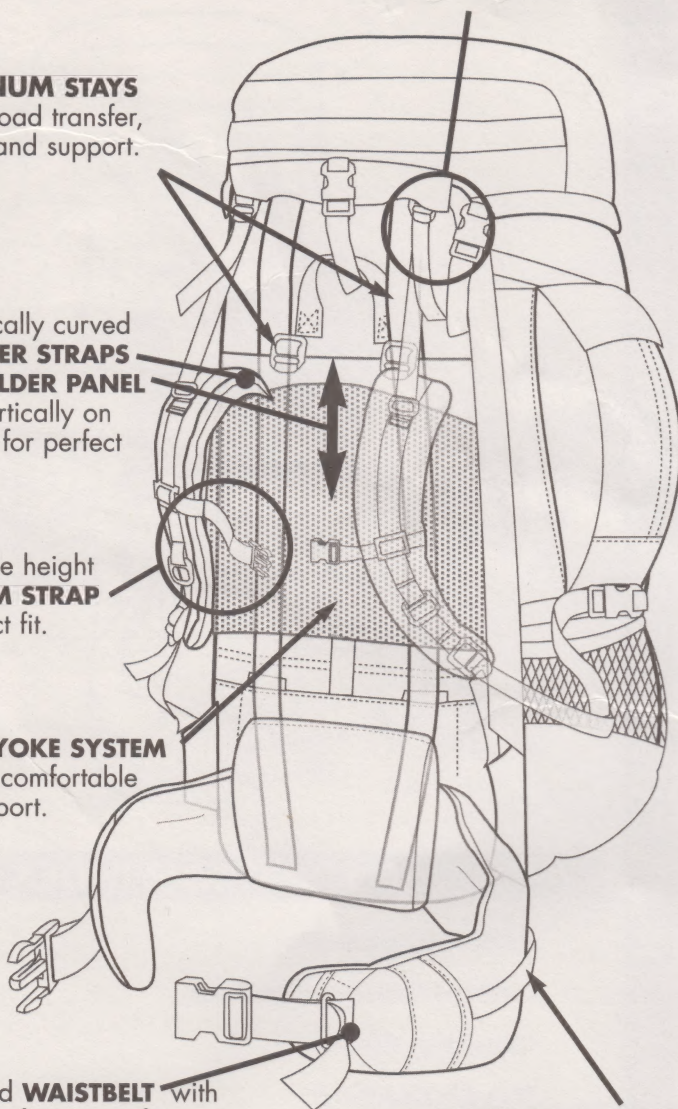
Adjustable height
STERNUM STRAP
for perfect fit.

Padded **YOKE SYSTEM**
provides comfortable
load support.

Contoured **WAISTBELT** with
plastic reinforcement for
load support and Scherer
Cinch.

LOAD-LIFTER STRAPS
lift the pack's weight
off the shoulders.

BELT STABILIZER STRAPS
on waistbelt help to
transfer and control load.



WAISTBELT POSITION

Follow these steps **IN SEQUENCE** to achieve the best fit every time you use your pack. Refer to the figure on page 2 to identify pack parts.

Before starting, loosen all load-lifter and belt stabilizer straps.

1. **FIRST** weight the pack with at least 25 lb. (35 lb. is ideal).
2. **NEXT** put the pack on and tighten the waistbelt. Make sure you place the waistbelt in the proper location (Figures 3 & 4).

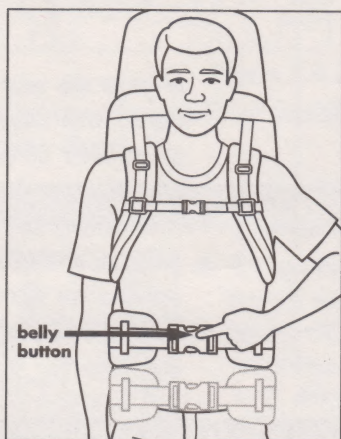


Figure 3

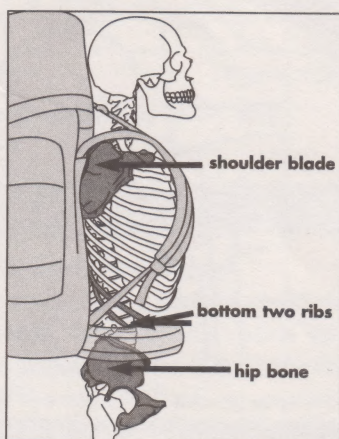


Figure 4

It is recommended to wear the belt on hip bones, just under the rib cage. If you still prefer to wear the belt low, add one to two inches to your torso length measurement. Figure 3 shows both the preferred placement of the waistbelt and an example of a belt worn low. The low position is not recommended. Once positioned correctly, tighten the belt to prevent it from sliding. (A good rule of thumb is to have the belt buckle approximately over your belly button.)

Benefits of wearing the belt high on the waist:

- A. Proper loading of the skeletal frame, further supported by the two strongest muscle groups in the body: the quadriceps & gluteals.
- B. Blood flow & nerves route across the front of the hips; wearing the belt too low can restrict blood flow causing muscle fatigue, nerve pinching and possible numbness.

SHOULDER STRAP POSITION

- 3. Once the waistbelt is in the correct position, tighten the shoulder straps.** To tighten shoulder straps pull the webbing at the lower ends of the shoulder strap down & back. The pad of the shoulder strap should start one to two inches below the top of your shoulder (**Figure 5**). (Put a little more load on your shoulders than you want to end up with.) During this operation the load-lifter straps should be kept loose.

With the waistbelt positioned correctly and the shoulder straps as shown below, you have achieved a perfect fit.

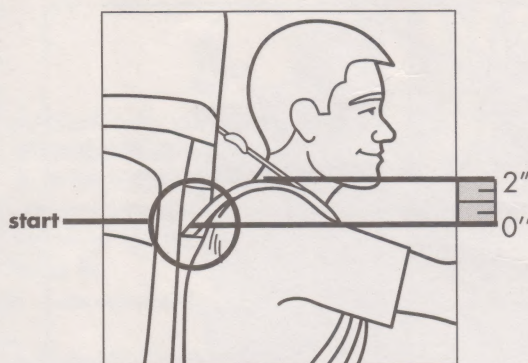


Figure 5

If you do not have the correct shoulder strap position, you will need to adjust shoulder straps as directed in the following section.

SHOULDER STRAP ADJUSTMENT

- A. Undo the velcro side flaps (Figure 6,A) and then flip the side flaps under the sliding panel to prevent re-velcroing (Figure 6,B).**

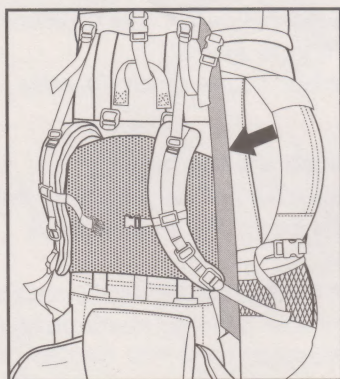


Figure 6,A

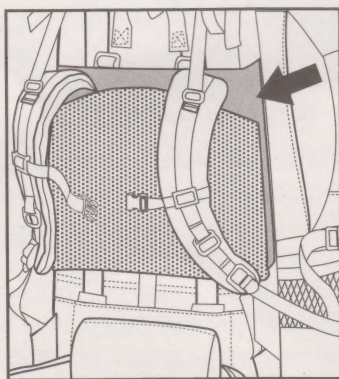


Figure 6,B

- B. Loosen vertical strap on the black webbing (Figure 7,A) and slide the shoulder panel into the correct position by pulling up or down on the shoulder straps and backpanel (Figure 7,B).**

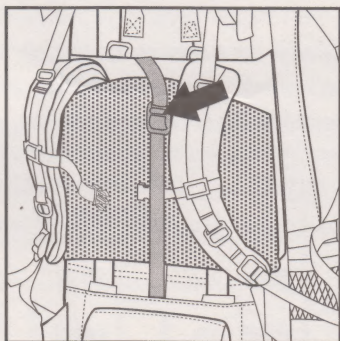


Figure 7,A

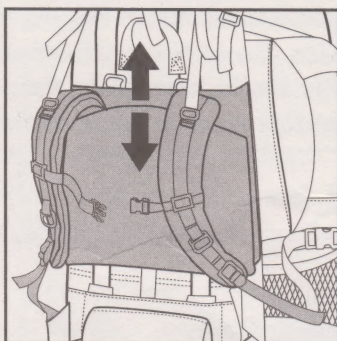
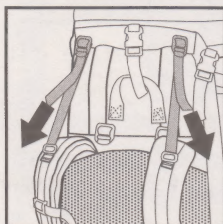


Figure 7,B

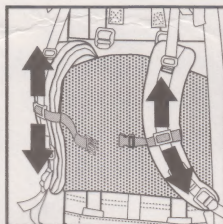
- C. Tighten the vertical webbing and re-velcro the side flaps.**

VARIOUS STRAPS



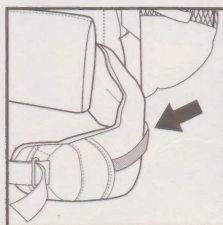
4. Snug the Load-Lifter Straps

This lifts the shoulder straps (and the pack's weight) off the top of your shoulders. Don't allow the load-lifters to pull the shoulder straps more than 1/2" off your shoulder, or it will cause pressure points. If the pack feels better the more you pull the load lifter, the stays might need to be adjusted more (see "Gap at top of shoulder" on page 7).



5. Position Sternum Strap-(OPTIONAL)

Position the sternum strap on your chest, and pull it snug. The sternum strap should cross your chest high, just below your clavicle, so it doesn't interfere with your breathing. Some people find it more comfortable not to use the sternum strap when breathing hard—especially at altitude.



6. Pull Belt Stabilizer Straps-(OPTIONAL)

Pull the belt stabilizers just snug. If overtightening them feels good, you might need to bend more curve into the frame in the lumbar region. Overtightening causes gaps between you and the belt. Belt stabilizers are best left loose for the first 15-30 minutes of hiking.)

7. When the pack fits as seen in Figure 5 (page 4), walk around and notice how the pack feels against your back. The pack should conform to your back as in Figure 11.

Use the short evaluation below to ensure a great fit. Make certain to take notice of any pressure points and trouble shoot them in the next section.

	feels great	discomfort/ pressure
Area A Lumbar Pad (bottom of the belt)	<input type="checkbox"/> top	<input type="checkbox"/> top
	<input type="checkbox"/> mid	<input type="checkbox"/> mid
	<input type="checkbox"/> bottom	<input type="checkbox"/> bottom
Area B Shoulder Pad (top of back)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Area C Headroom	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you have answered "discomfort/pressure" to any of the above see, the trouble shooting section (page 7).

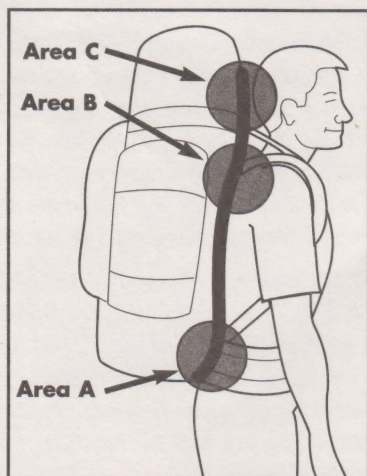


Figure 11

When you are **walking with weight in the pack**, the pack's shape should be exactly the same as your back. We put an average curve into the frame at the factory, but some additional fine-tuning may be required.

FRAME SHAPING

HINT: Most bending of the stays can be done over the edge of a table without taking the stays out of the pack. (Bending and re-bending the stays won't hurt them.) Fit your pack with an average load, wear your hiking boots, and carefully load your pack with the weight close to your back just like you would for a trip. **Walk around.** Use the guide below to address problems.

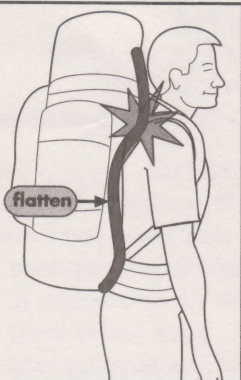
HINT: Wearing a pack with wrinkled clothing or seam lumps under the waistbelt can cause pressure points. Belt loops and elasticized waistbands are classic sources of discomfort.

PROBLEM: Pressure at bottom of belt



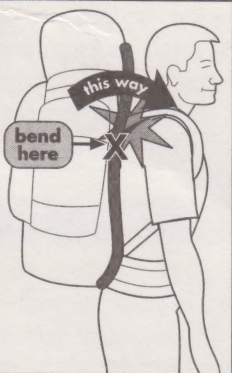
Bend at lumbar pad top (X) to tuck the pad into the small of your back.

PROBLEM: Pressure at top of back



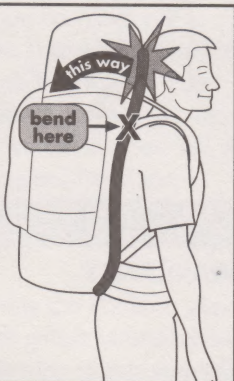
Flatten the curve of the frame where it bows away from the back.

PROBLEM: Gap at top of shoulder



Add curve to the frame and then bend back the top (X).

PROBLEM: Need more headroom



Bend the frame away from the head (at X).

HOW TO PACK

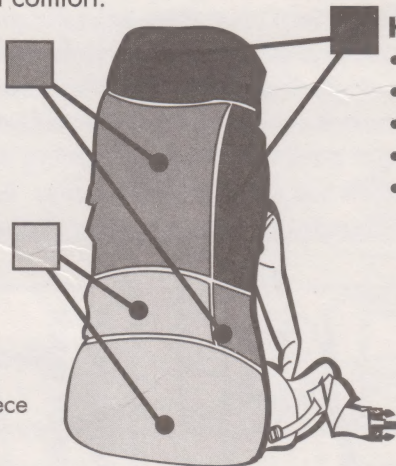
Loading the pack greatly affects your comfort—follow the guidelines below for optimum comfort.

MEDIUM ITEMS

- Cooking utensils
- Some clothing
- Some foods
- Tent body and fly

LIGHTEST ITEMS

- Sleeping bag
- Pad
- Rain, wind gear
- Bivy sack
- Bulky clothing/ fleece



HEAVY ITEMS

- Water
- Stove
- Fuel
- Food
- Tent poles

NOTE:

If your pack feels like it's leaning away too much from your shoulders, you have a weight distribution problem.

Hints to keep you comfortable when out on the trail:

- When balance is crucial for off-trail travel, climbing or skiing, pack heavy items centered and close to the back.
- The sleeping bag should always go in or on the bottom of the pack.
- Pack clothing and other light gear around heavy items (ie. a stove or climbing gear) in order to keep them from shifting.
- Items you will need during the day should be packed in the top of the main compartment, the top pocket, or side pockets.
- Foam pads and odd-sized equipment (such as long tent poles) can be carried on the outside of the pack. Use the appropriate accessory patches, ice axe loop, or ski slots for these items.
- Do not put heavy items like water bottles or climbing equipment in pockets located far from your back.

WARRANTY

WARRANTY

Kelty products are warranted against defects in materials and workmanship during the product's lifetime. This warranty does not cover damage due to normal wear and tear, natural hazard, abuse or alteration. For warranty service, call the Kelty Customer Service Department at 866.349.7225 (866.FIX.PACK).

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